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9 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
10 CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA  
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12 EXXONMOBIL OIL  
13 CORPORATION, a New York  
Corporation,

14 Plaintiff,

15 v.

16 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON  
17 COMPANY, a California Corporation,

18 Defendant.  
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No. 2:12-cv-10001-GHK-VBKx

[Discovery Document: Referred to  
Magistrate Judge Victor B. Kenton]

**~~[PROPOSED]~~ PROTECTIVE  
ORDER GOVERNING THE  
PRODUCTION AND HANDLING  
OF CONFIDENTIAL AND TRADE  
SECRET MATERIAL**

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3 Plaintiff ExxonMobil Oil Corporation, on one hand, and Defendant Southern  
4 California Edison Company, on the other hand (collectively, the "Parties"), have  
5 submitted a Stipulation Re: [Proposed] Protective Order Governing the Production  
6 and Handling of Confidential and Trade Secret Material ("Stipulation"). Pursuant  
7 to the Stipulation, the Parties believe that entry of an order for the protection of  
8 confidential or trade secret information that may be produced or otherwise  
9 disclosed by them or third parties during the course of this action will facilitate  
10 production and receipt of information during discovery in this action.

11 Accordingly, the Court, having considered the Stipulation and good cause  
12 appearing therefore, hereby ORDERS as follows:

13  
14 1. Any confidential information produced by or on behalf of any Party or  
15 non-party as part of discovery in this action may be designated by such Party as  
16 "Confidential." The Party producing the information designated as confidential is  
17 referred to herein as the "Designating Party."

18 2. A document may be designated "Confidential" when it contains  
19 private or business information that would be protected under the constitutional,  
20 statutory, or common law rights to privacy, or when it contains trade secret  
21 information entitled to protection under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(c),  
22 including but not limited to, confidential business information such as marketing  
23 plans or strategies, business plans, strategic plans, license agreements or  
24 negotiations, engineering and manufacturing drawings, market research, research  
25 and development relating to products not yet released or sold, correspondence and  
26 agreements with actual or prospective customers or vendors, financial information  
27 or projections, including without limitation, invoices, sales, licensing payments,  
28 licensing statements, budgets, statements of revenue, profits, costs or liabilities,

1 actual or prospective customer lists, or other information or documents that would  
2 put the producing person at a competitive disadvantage if the information became  
3 known to the receiving Party or a third party.

4 3. Information that is publicly available may not be designated as  
5 “Confidential.”

6 4. Information designated “Confidential” may be used only in connection  
7 with this Action, and not for any other purpose. Such information may not be  
8 disclosed to anyone except as provided in the Order.

9 5. Any Party or non-party wishing to come within the provisions of the  
10 Order may designate as “Confidential” the documents (as defined in Federal Rule  
11 of Civil Procedure 34 and Federal Rule of Evidence 1001) or portions thereof  
12 which it considers confidential at the time the documents are produced.

13 6. The Parties recognize that simply because a document falls into one of  
14 the illustrative categories listed in Paragraph 2 does not indicate that it is  
15 appropriately designated as “Confidential.” The designation of material as  
16 confidential pursuant to the Order shall mean that the producing Party has a  
17 reasonable good faith belief that the material constitutes confidential information as  
18 defined in the Order, and requires enhanced protection. Blanket designation of  
19 documents or information as confidential en masse or without regard to the specific  
20 contents of each document or piece of information is strictly prohibited.

21 7. Each page of the document must be marked “Confidential” by the  
22 producing Party. Any such stamp or designation shall not cover up, obscure or  
23 otherwise conceal any text, picture, drawing, graph or other communication or  
24 depiction in the document. In the case of confidential information disclosed in a  
25 non-paper medium (e.g., videotape, audiotape, computer disks, etc.), the  
26 appropriate designation shall be affixed on the outside of the medium or its  
27 container so as to clearly give notice of the designation. Documents or things  
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1 which cannot be reasonably labeled pursuant to this paragraph shall be so  
2 designated by the producing Party by informing the receiving Party in writing.

3 8. Any producing Party may, in good faith, designate information or  
4 documents disclosed during deposition as Confidential by indicating on the record  
5 at the deposition that the entire deposition testimony, or any specified part of the  
6 testimony given or to be given, and/or all or any part of the document or thing  
7 marked for identification at such deposition, is Confidential subject to the  
8 provisions of this Protective Order. In the case of deposition testimony,  
9 confidentiality designations may also be made within thirty (30) days after the  
10 transcript has been received by counsel making the designation and shall specify  
11 the testimony being designated Confidential by page and line number(s). Each  
12 Party shall attach a copy of such written statement to the face of the transcript and  
13 each copy thereof in its possession, custody or control. Until the expiration of such  
14 30-day period, the entire text of the deposition, including all testimony therein and  
15 exhibits thereto, shall be treated as Confidential under this Protective Order unless  
16 otherwise agreed by the parties.

17 9. Any documents or discovery responses labeled as "Confidential," as  
18 well as any copies or excerpts thereof, or analyses or reports which pertain thereto,  
19 and any deposition testimony or portion thereof marked as "Confidential," may be  
20 made available only to:

21 (a) the Parties (including their officers, directors, employees and in-  
22 house attorneys) and their attorneys of record in this Action (including such  
23 attorneys' employees, copy services and document management services);

24 (b) judges, magistrate judges, law clerks, and other clerical  
25 personnel of the Court before which this Action is pending;

26 (c) experts or consultants (and their staff) to any Party;  
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1 (d) a witness at any deposition or trial in this Action (including  
2 persons whom counsel in good faith believe will testify at a deposition or at trial)  
3 and counsel for such witness;

4 (e) any person noticed for deposition or designated as a trial witness  
5 to the extent reasonably necessary in connection with preparing to testify;

6 (f) any person who was the author, recipient, or copy recipient of a  
7 document or information for the purpose of interrogation of such person at trial, by  
8 deposition or during the course of preparation for trial, deposition or other  
9 proceedings in this Action;

10 (g) court and deposition reporters and their staff who are required to  
11 transcribe testimony;

12 (h) mediators, settlement judges and clerical personnel of such  
13 neutrals;

14 (i) to the extent that there are insurance policies under which any  
15 insurance carrier may be liable to satisfy part or all of any judgment that may be  
16 entered in this Action, all such insurance carriers (including their insurance  
17 adjusters), and counsel for such carriers;

18 (j) the jury, if any, in the trial of this Action; and

19 (k) any other person upon order of the Court or upon prior written  
20 consent of the Designating Party.

21 10. Materials designated Confidential pursuant to this Protective Order are  
22 referred to collectively as "Designated Materials." Each person permitted by the  
23 Parties or their counsel to have access to Designated Materials under the terms of  
24 the Order (other than the persons identified in Paragraphs 9(a), 9(b), 9(f), and 9(j))  
25 shall, prior to being given such access, be provided with a copy of the Order for  
26 review and shall sign an Undertaking of Confidentiality in the form of Exhibit A  
27 hereto, indicating that he or she has read the Order and agrees to comply with its  
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1 terms. Counsel disclosing Designated Materials to such persons shall retain the  
2 original signed Undertaking of Confidentiality.

3 11. The restrictions set forth in the Order shall not apply to information  
4 which is known to the receiving Party or the public before the date of its  
5 transmission to the receiving Party, or which becomes known to the public after the  
6 date of its transmission to the receiving Party, provided that such information does  
7 not become publicly known by any act or omission of the receiving Party, its  
8 employees, or its agents which would be in violation of the Order.

9 12. In the event that counsel for any Party desires to file with the Court  
10 any document which includes any Designated Materials, such papers shall be  
11 accompanied by an application, pursuant to Local Rule 79-5.1, to file the papers –  
12 or the confidential portion thereof – under seal. The application shall be directed to  
13 the judge to whom the papers are directed. Pending the ruling on the application,  
14 the papers or portions thereof subject to the sealing application shall be lodged  
15 under seal in a sealed envelope upon which shall prominently appear a statement  
16 substantially similar to the following:

17 This envelope contains documents or information that are subject to a  
18 protective order. The confidentiality of the material is to be  
19 maintained and the envelope is not to be opened, or the contents  
revealed to any individual, except as provided in the protective order.

20 This Section shall not apply to the Parties' submission of exhibits for trial, nor the  
21 handling of exhibits during trial.

22 13. If, at any time during this Action, any Party believes that any other  
23 Party or non-party has improperly designated information as "Confidential," or  
24 believes that it is necessary to disclose designated information to persons other than  
25 those permitted by the Order, and the producing Party does not agree to change the  
26 designation or to allow the disclosure, the objecting Party may make, pursuant to  
27 Local Rule 37, a motion to the Court requesting that the specifically identified  
28 documents, information and/or deposition testimony be de-designated as

1 Confidential and/or be available to specified other persons. A Party that elects to  
2 initiate a challenge to a Designating Party's confidentiality designation must do so  
3 in good faith and must begin the process by conferring directly with counsel for the  
4 Designating Party. In conferring, the challenging Party must explain the basis for  
5 its belief that the confidentiality designation was not proper and must give the  
6 Designating Party five (5) calendar days to review the designated material, to  
7 reconsider the circumstances, and, if no change in designation is offered, to explain  
8 the basis for the chosen designation. If no response to this meet and confer process  
9 is received from the Designating Party within five (5) calendar days, a challenging  
10 Party may proceed to the next stage of the challenge.

11 14. Subject to the Local Rules, a Party that elects to press a challenge to a  
12 confidentiality designation after considering the justification offered by the  
13 Designating Party (or if no response is received from the Designating Party within  
14 five (5) calendar days) may file and serve a motion that identifies the challenged  
15 material and set forth in detail the basis for the challenge. It shall be the burden of  
16 the Designating Party to demonstrate that the material or information at issue was  
17 properly designated as Confidential and entitled to protection under applicable law.

18 15. Unless a prompt challenge to a Designating Party's confidentiality  
19 designation is necessary to avoid foreseeable substantial unfairness, unnecessary  
20 economic burdens, or a later significant disruption or delay of the Action, a Party  
21 does not waive its right to challenge a confidentiality designation by election not to  
22 mount a challenge promptly after the original designation is disclosed.

23 16. In the event that any Party is served with a subpoena or other demand  
24 by any person, firm, corporation, or other entity who is not a party to this action, is  
25 not a signatory to the Order, or is otherwise not bound by the Order, which seeks to  
26 compel production of any Designated Materials, the Party upon whom the subpoena  
27 or demand is served shall give written notice of the subpoena or demand to the  
28 Party who has asserted that the information or documents requested are

1 “Confidential.” The written notice required by this paragraph shall be given no  
2 later than three (3) court days after receipt of the subpoena or other demand, or  
3 seven (7) court days before the production date set forth in the subpoena or other  
4 demand, whichever is earlier. The Party who designated the subject information or  
5 documents as “Confidential” shall have the responsibility to obtain an order from  
6 the Court quashing the subpoena, granting a protective order, and/or granting such  
7 other relief as will protect the alleged confidential nature of the subject information  
8 or documents. If such a motion is filed before the requested production date, the  
9 Party upon whom the subpoena or other demand is served shall not produce the  
10 subject information or documents until after such time as the Court rules on the  
11 objecting Party’s motion. If an order quashing the subpoena or other protective  
12 order is obtained, the Party upon who the subpoena, discovery request, or order is  
13 served shall comply with the order. If no motion to quash or motion for protective  
14 order is filed before the scheduled production date set forth in the subpoena or other  
15 demand, or if the motion to quash the subpoena or motion for protective order is  
16 denied, the Party upon whom the subpoena or other demand is served may comply  
17 with the same without being deemed to have violated the Order.

18 17. The Order shall not apply to any document or information obtained by  
19 a discovering Party which:

20 (a) was already a matter of public record or knowledge before its  
21 receipt through discovery;

22 (b) became a matter of public record or knowledge after its  
23 production in discovery; or

24 (c) was previously produced without a confidentiality restriction.

25 18. This Order may only be modified in a writing signed by the Parties and  
26 approved by an order of the Court.

27 19. The inadvertent or unintentional production of documents, materials,  
28 testimony or information containing, or other disclosure of, private, confidential,

1 proprietary, or trade secret information that is not designated “Confidential” at the  
2 time of the production or disclosure shall not be deemed a waiver in whole or in  
3 part of a Party’s claim of confidentiality or secrecy, either as to the specific  
4 information disclosed or as to any other information relating thereto or on the same  
5 or related subject matter. Any error in designation or production shall be corrected  
6 in writing as soon as reasonably possible after the designating Party becomes aware  
7 of the error. Upon receipt of such written notification, the receiving Party will treat  
8 such documents, materials, testimony or other information as “Confidential.”

9 Disclosure of documents, materials, testimony or other information prior to the  
10 receipt of such notice to persons not authorized to receive such documents,  
11 materials, testimony or information shall not be deemed a violation of this  
12 Protective Order. However, a receiving Party must use its best efforts to retrieve  
13 and re-designate the information in accordance with the requirements for  
14 Confidential information. The production of documents or other tangible things  
15 pursuant to a request for production by a Party hereto shall not be deemed a waiver  
16 of any right by the producing Party to object to the admissibility of such document  
17 or other thing on grounds of relevancy, materiality, privilege, or any other ground.

18 20. With respect to the inadvertent disclosure of privileged information:

19 (a) The Parties anticipate a significant amount of hard-copy and  
20 electronic information will be produced in this action in response to requests for  
21 discovery. The Parties recognize that it may be impracticable to review thoroughly  
22 prior to production all information for possible protection by attorney-client  
23 privilege or the attorney work product doctrine, and wish to avoid undue delay and  
24 expense to the extent possible.

25 (b) The inadvertent production of information that is subject to a  
26 claim of any privilege or of protection as work product shall not constitute a waiver  
27 of any privilege or other protection, provided that—consistent with the provisions  
28 of Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(b)(5) and Federal Rule of Evidence 502—the

1 producing Party notifies the receiving Party in writing of the inadvertent production  
2 as soon as practicable following the producing Party's discovery of the inadvertent  
3 production.

4 (c) Following the producing Party's written notice of the  
5 inadvertent production, and subject to Paragraph 20(e) below, the receiving Party  
6 shall not use such information for any purpose and shall promptly return, destroy,  
7 or delete from its databases all copies of the specified information and shall make  
8 reasonable efforts to retrieve the information if the receiving Party previously  
9 provided the information to third parties.

10 (d) The receiving Party shall not assert a claim or argument in this  
11 or any other court or legal proceeding that the producing Party's act of  
12 inadvertently producing the information constituted a waiver of the producing  
13 Party's privilege or other protection over the information.

14 (e) If there is a disagreement as to whether the specified  
15 information is privileged or subject to protection, the receiving Party may file a  
16 motion seeking a determination by the Court. Until the Court makes a  
17 determination of the privileged or protected status of the information, the receiving  
18 Party shall not use in any way (including, but not limited to, using the information  
19 in depositions or at trial) nor disclose the information to any other persons and shall  
20 make reasonable efforts to retrieve any of the information provided to third parties.

21 21. Within sixty (60) days of termination of this Action, unless the  
22 attorneys of record otherwise agree in writing, each Party shall:

23 (a) assemble and return all Designated Materials, including copies,  
24 to the person(s) and entity(ies) from whom the material was obtained, or

25 (b) destroy all Designated Materials and provide the other Party  
26 with written certification that such destruction was made.

27 22. Notwithstanding the preceding paragraph, the attorney of record for  
28 any Party may retain an archival copy of all pleadings, motion papers, transcripts,

1 legal memoranda, correspondence or attorney work product, even if such materials  
2 contain Designated Material. Any such archival copies that contain or constitute  
3 Designated Material remain subject to this Protective Order.

4 23. This Order shall not affect the right of any Party to object to the  
5 production of any document or other information or to demand more stringent  
6 restrictions upon the treatment and disclosure of any document or other  
7 information, on the ground that such document or information contains particularly  
8 sensitive information, or otherwise.

9 24. This Order shall not prejudice the right of any Party or non-party to  
10 oppose production of any information on the ground of attorney-client privilege,  
11 work product immunity, or any other protection provided under the law.

12 25. Nothing herein shall be deemed either a waiver of any objection that  
13 any Party may have to the production of any document or information, nor an  
14 admission of the relevancy of any document or information requested.

15 26. The Court shall retain jurisdiction to make appropriate modifications  
16 to its Protective Order, and either Party reserves the right to seek additional  
17 protection with respect to specific information or materials produced in this action.

18 27. All provisions of the Order restricting the use, disclosure or  
19 communication of any Designated Materials shall continue to be binding on Parties,  
20 and their successors, assigns, heirs, and attorneys, after the conclusion of this  
21 Action.

22 28. This Order shall survive the final termination of this Action, and the  
23 Court shall retain jurisdiction to resolve any dispute concerning the use of any  
24 information disclosed hereunder.

25 IT IS SO ORDERED.

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28 Dated: September 12, 2013

/s/  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

**EXHIBIT A**

**UNDERTAKING OF CONFIDENTIALITY**

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5 1. I have been asked by \_\_\_\_\_ or its counsel to receive  
6 and review certain materials or testimony that have been designated as  
7 “Confidential” within the terms of the Protective Order entered in the U.S. District  
8 Court, Central District of California, case entitled ExxonMobil Oil Corporation v.  
9 Southern California Edison Company, 2:12-cv-10001-GHK-VBK.

10 2. I have read the aforementioned Protective Order, and agree to be  
11 bound by it.

12 3. I declare the foregoing is true under penalty of perjury under the laws  
13 of the United States of America.

14  
15 Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

16  
17 Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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